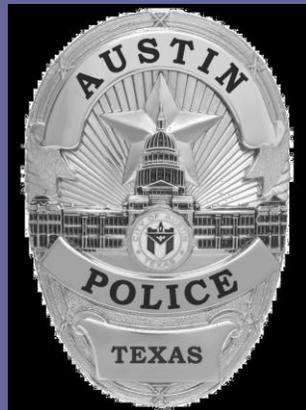


2016 Response to Resistance Dataset
Austin Police Department



August 2017
Austin Police Department:
Research and Planning Unit

Background

This document summarizes the key data points related to response to resistance reporting. Department policy (General Order 200) states that:

it is the policy of this department that officers use only that amount of objectively reasonable force which appears necessary under the circumstances to successfully accomplish the legitimate law enforcement purpose in accordance with this policy.

and response to resistance (use of force) is defined by the same policy as:

Any physical contact with a subject by an officer using the body or any object, device, or weapon, not including unresisted escorting or handcuffing a subject...Any complaint by a subject that an officer caused pain or injury shall be treated as a response to resistance force incident, except complaints of minor discomfort from unresisted handcuffing.

When officers encounter these situations, policy requires the primary reporting officer to write the initial incident report, other officers involved in the incident to write supplements, and the supervisor to review the report for accuracy, thoroughness, and classification into the correct level.

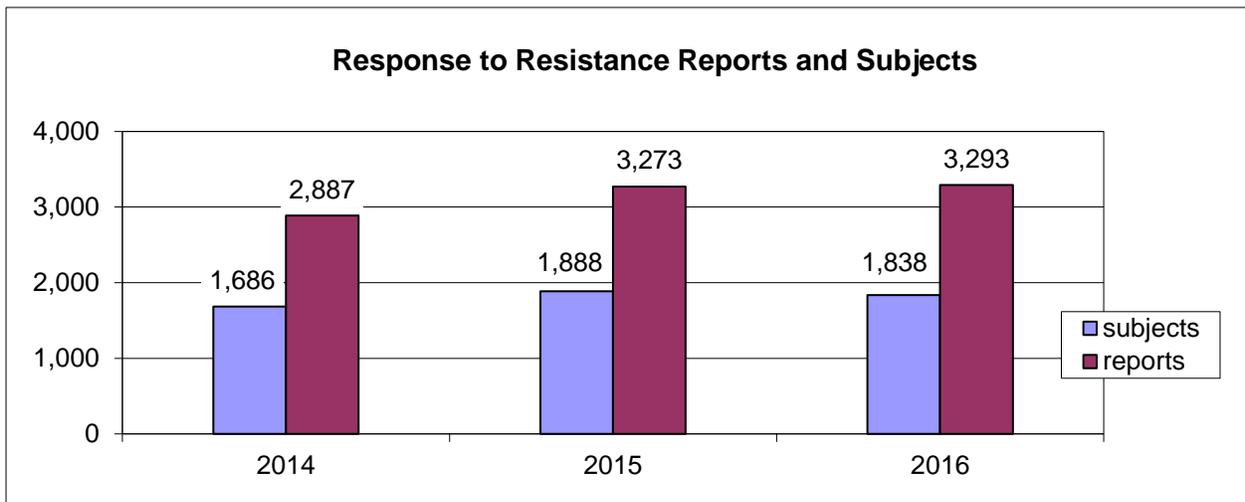
Three response to resistance levels are used for reporting, investigation, and review purposes:

Level 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• force resulting in death or substantial risk of death• intentional firearm discharge at a person, vehicle or structure• intentional firearm discharge at an animal resulting in injury to a person• unintentional firearm discharge resulting in another person's injury or death• force resulting in serious bodily injury requiring hospital admission• use of impact weapon that strikes subject's head• in-custody death occurring prior to or within 24 hours after booking• Precision Immobilization Technique (PIT) use with serious bodily injury/death
Level 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• strike to the head with any weaponless technique• use of impact weapon that strikes subject (other than head)• deployment of a police canine resulting in a bite or injury• use of Taser that causes incapacitation• Precision Immobilization Technique (PIT) without serious bodily injury/death
Level 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• use of chemical agent (e.g., pepper spray, tear gas)• use of Taser that does not cause incapacitation• use of impact weapon that does not strike subject• use of baton for non-striking purposes• force resulting in injury or complaint of pain beyond the temporary discomfort of unresisted handcuffing• use of weaponless technique

The chain-of-command is responsible for reviewing all response to resistance incidents. The department’s Force Review Board provides an additional review of selected incidents and is responsible for identifying improvements in policy, training, tactics, and equipment, as well as assessing the quality and timeliness of reporting, investigation, and chain-of-command review.

Number of Reports and Subjects

During 2016, there were 3,293 response to resistance reports (unique response to resistance events) and 1,838 subjects (those who received force).

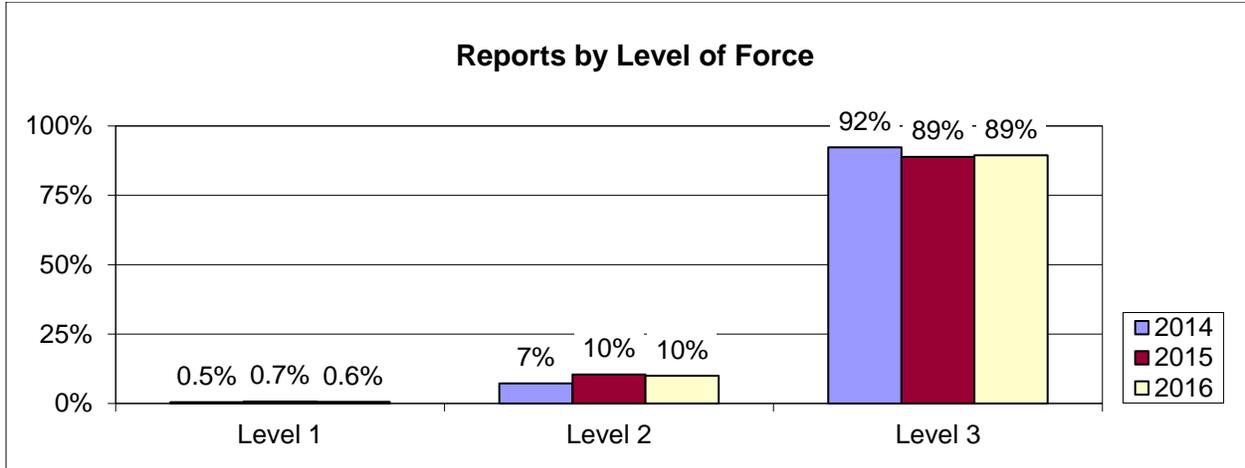


To provide context, we also track the total number of police contacts (571,719 in 2016) and total arrests (41,583 in 2016). Of total police contacts, .3% involved resistance/force. And as a percent of total arrests, 4.4% involved resistance/force.

	2014	2015	2016
use of force reports	2,887	3,273	3,293
subjects who had force used	1,686	1,888	1,838
total contacts	591,163	567,145	571,719
total arrests	48,649	44,037	41,583
subjects receiving force as % of total contacts	0.3%	0.3%	0.3%
subjects receiving force as % of total arrests	3.5%	4.3%	4.4%

Reports by Level

During 2016, as in prior years, response to resistance reports were concentrated in Level 3, the least severe level.



Subjects and Race/Ethnicity

Most response to resistance incidents occur when an officer attempts to make an arrest. In 2016, there were 1,838 subjects involved in response to resistance incidents, which is 4.4% of the 41,583 subjects arrested citywide. The table below shows the distribution of force and arrests by race/ethnicity.

Response to Resistance Subjects by Race/Ethnicity

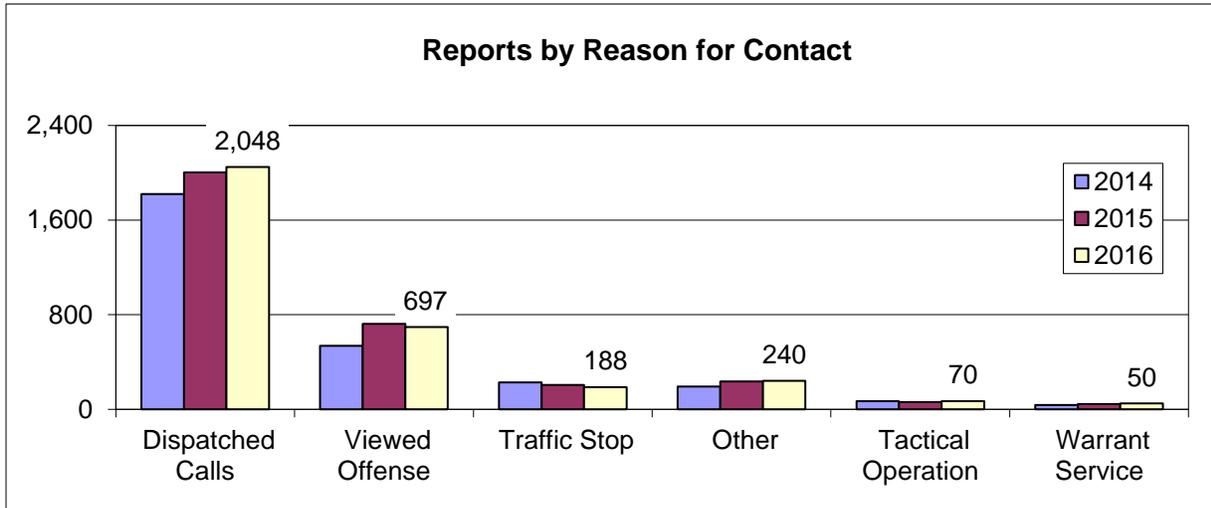
	White			Black			Hispanic		
	Arrests	Force Used	as % of Arrests	Arrests	Force Used	% of Arrests	Arrests	Force Used	% of Arrests
2014	19,531	571	2.9%	11,832	466	3.9%	16,385	586	3.6%
2015	17,856	624	3.5%	10,814	511	4.7%	14,519	611	4.2%
2016	17,672	579	3.3%	10,119	521	5.1%	12,928	630	4.9%

	Other*			Total		
	Arrests	Force Used	% of Arrests	Arrests	Force Used	% of Arrests
2014	901	63	7.0%	48,649	1,686	3.5%
2015	848	142	16.7%	44,037	1,888	4.3%
2016	864	108	12.5%	41,583	1,838	4.4%

* Other includes Asian, Hawaiian/Pacific Islander, Native American, Middle Eastern, and unknown

Reports by Reason for Contact

In 2016 – as in prior years – most response to resistance reports (62%) resulted from dispatched calls for service. The other significant category of response to resistance reports resulted from viewed offenses – contacts made when the officer observed and responded to an offense in progress. In 2016 these represented 21% of reports (see chart and table below).



Reports by Reason for Contact	2014	% of 2014 Reports	2015	% of 2015 Reports	2016	% of 2016 Reports
Dispatched Calls	1,821	63%	2,002	61%	2,048	62%
Viewed Offense	537	19%	722	22%	697	21%
Traffic Stop	229	8%	206	6%	188	6%
Other	194	7%	236	7%	240	7%
Tactical Operation	70	2%	62	2%	70	2%
Warrant Service	36	1%	45	1%	50	2%
Total	2,887	100%	3,273	100%	3,293	100%

Reports by Type of Force Used

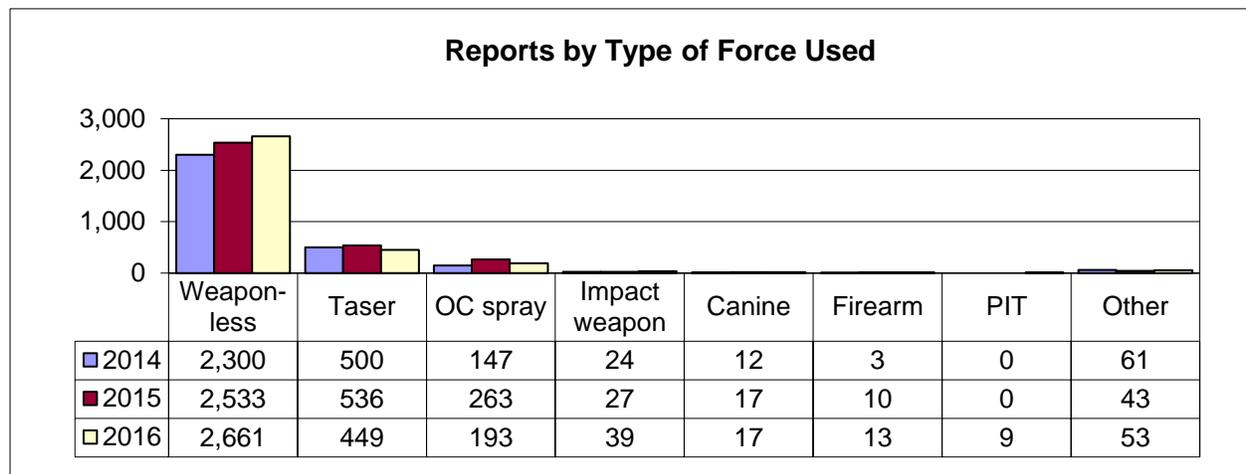
During a response to resistance incident, an officer may need to use more than one type of force. Further, more than one officer may use force to control the situation. As a result, one incident may result in more than one response to resistance report and each report may include more than one type of force. Thus, the types of force used can be more than the total reports filed.

These are the different types of response to resistance, ordered from the highest to the lowest.

- Firearm: both intentional and unintentional firearm discharge toward an individual
- Canine: use of a police dog in an arrest situation where dog bite occurs
- Impact weapon: a weapon or object that is used to strike, such as a baton

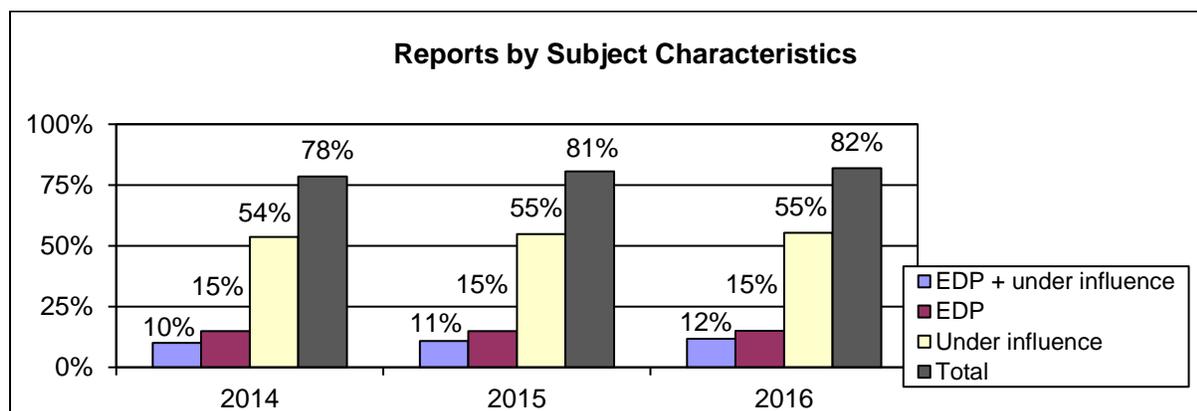
- Pursuit Immobilization Technique (PIT): use of police vehicle to stop a fleeing suspect vehicle to end a hazardous pursuit
- Taser: less-lethal device using electronic muscular disruption technology that briefly causes loss of voluntary muscle control; includes drive stun and prongs
- OC spray: chemical agents including "pepper spray" and "tear gas"
- Weaponless: includes soft-hand control (e.g., joint locks, pressure points, and escort hold) and hard-hand control (e.g., hand and leg strike)
- Other: action that isn't categorized in any specific use of force category

The following chart shows the number of times each type of force was used. In 2016, as in prior years, the most frequent force type was "weaponless." Weaponless techniques, as shown in the previous list, are considered the lowest level of force used in response to subject resistance.



Reports by Subject Characteristics

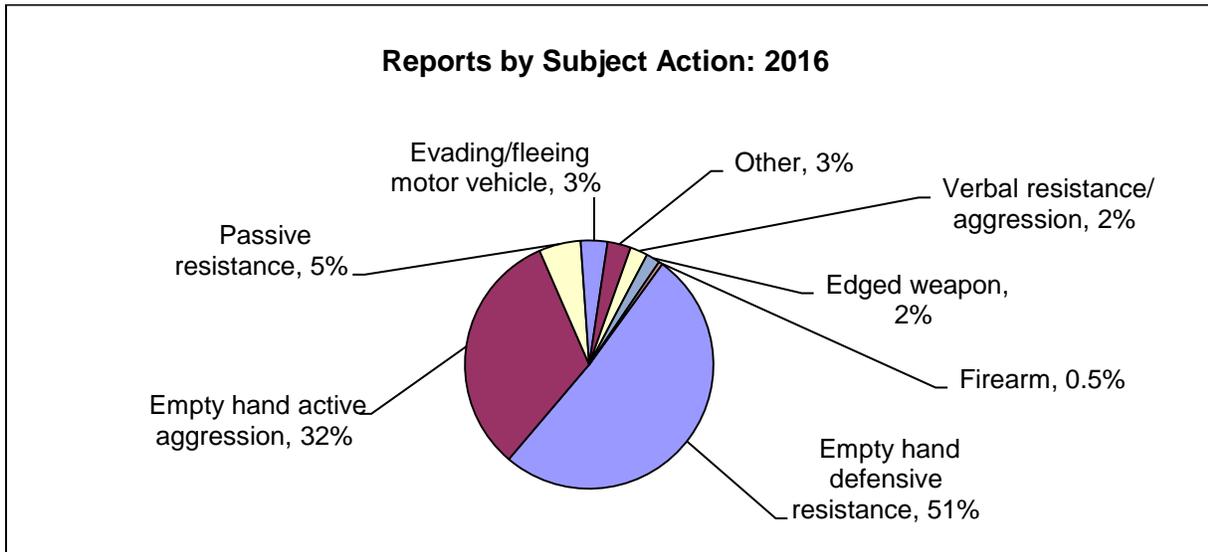
In 82% of the 2016 response to resistance reports, officers noted that the subject was suspected to be under the influence of drugs/alcohol or emotionally disturbed (EDP) or both.



Reports by Subject Action

During 2016, empty-hand resistance and empty-hand aggression were the most frequent subject actions resulting in response to resistance by an officer. For subjects who displayed more than one type of resistance, only the most serious subject resistance is included in the following chart and table. Below, subject actions are defined and listed from most to least serious.

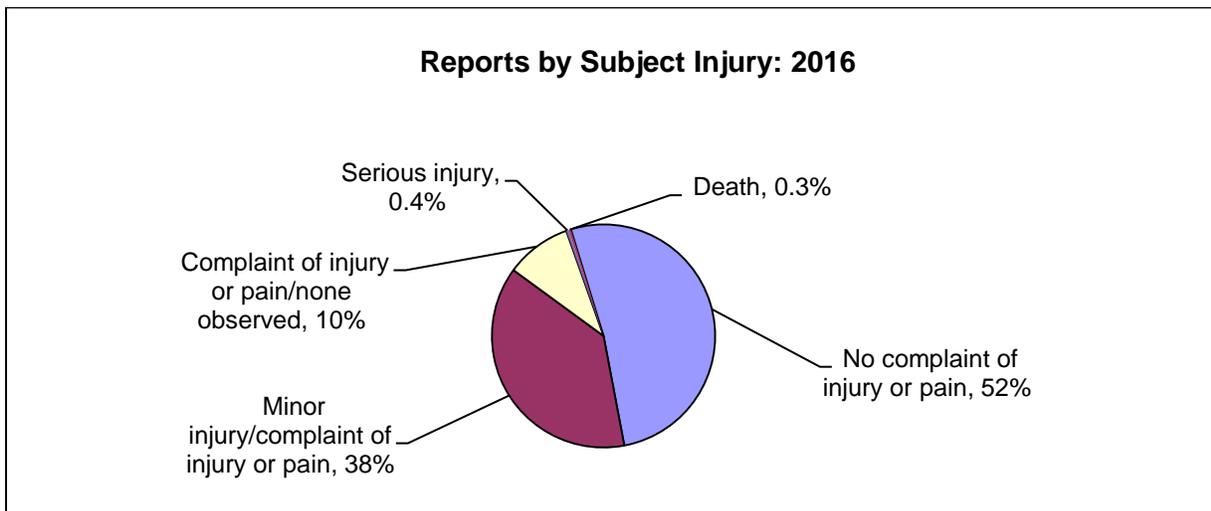
- Firearm: use or attempted use of a firearm
- Edged weapon: use or attempted use of a knife or similar weapon
- Empty-hand active aggression: physical assaults such as kicks, punches, slaps, grabs, and head butts
- Evading/fleeing motor vehicle: reckless vehicular flight of a suspect actively evading police
- Empty-hand defensive resistance: physical resistance by the subject such as pulling and pushing away to prevent the police officer's control
- Passive resistance: physical resistance less than defensive/aggressive resisting (e.g., going limp)
- Verbal resistance/aggression: verbal statements resisting police control, indicating refusal to cooperate and threats which constitute actions requiring force
- Other: any other resistance intended to hinder arrest/control



Reports by Subject Action	2014	% of 2014 Reports	2015	% of 2015 Reports	2016	% of 2016 Reports
Empty hand defensive resistance	797	47%	946	50%	941	51%
Empty hand active aggression	530	31%	673	36%	593	32%
Passive resistance	103	6%	75	4%	100	5%
Evading/fleeing motor vehicle	0	0%	0	0%	64	3%
Other	132	8%	88	5%	56	3%
Verbal resistance/ aggression	80	5%	75	4%	42	2%
Edged weapon	36	2%	23	1%	33	2%
Firearm	8	0.5%	8	0.4%	9	0.5%
Total	1,686	100%	1,888	100%	1,838	100%

Reports by Subject Injury

In 2016, as in previous years, the most frequent category of subject injury was “no complaint of injury or pain” (52% of subjects).

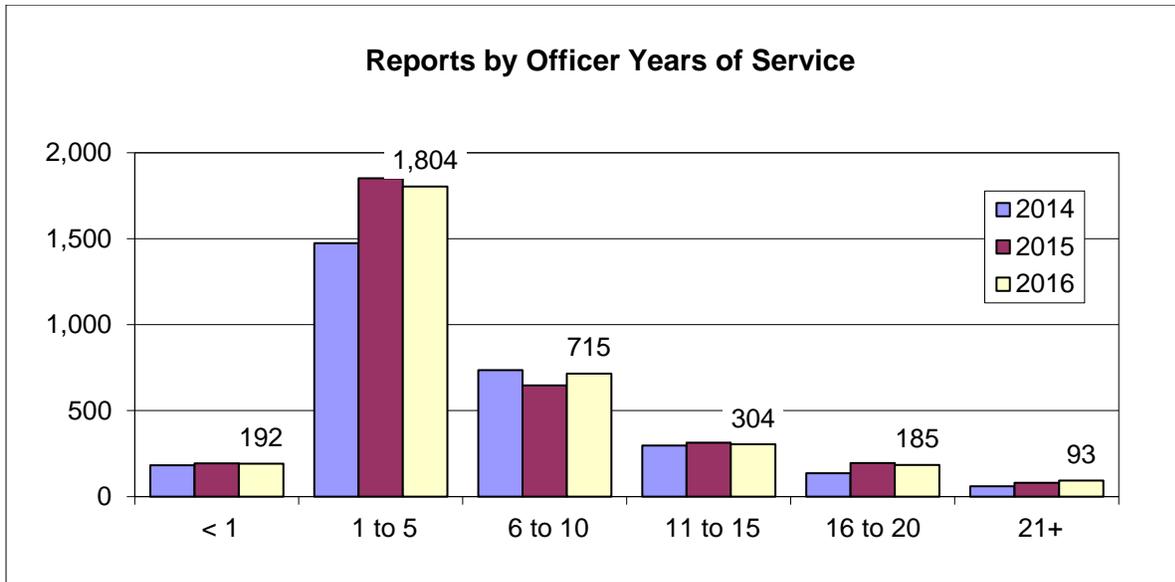


Reports by Subject Injury	2014	% of 2014 Reports	2015	% of 2015 Reports	2016	% of 2016 Reports
No complaint of injury or pain	843	50%	982	52%	951	52%
Minor injury/complaint of injury or pain	701	42%	729	39%	699	38%
Complaint of injury or pain/none observed	132	8%	163	9%	175	10%
Serious injury	9	0.5%	8	0.4%	7	0.4%
Death	1	0.1%	6	0.3%	6	0.3%
Total	1,686	100%	1,888	100%	1,838	100%

Reports by Officer Years of Experience

In 2016, as in prior years, officers with 1-5 years of service submitted the majority (55%) of response to resistance reports. Officers with 6-10 years of service submitted the next highest number of reports (22%).

As context, most response to resistance reports are submitted by patrol officers (87% in 2016) and the majority of the department's patrol officer population falls in the 1-5 years of service category (46%) or in the 6-10 years of service category (22%).



Reports by Officer Years of Service	2014	% of 2014 Reports	2015	% of 2015 Reports	2016	% of 2016 Reports
< 1	182	6%	193	6%	192	6%
1 to 5	1,474	51%	1,851	56%	1,804	55%
6 to 10	736	25%	646	20%	715	22%
11 to 15	297	10%	313	10%	304	9%
16 to 20	137	5%	195	6%	185	6%
21+	61	2%	81	2%	93	3%
Total	2,887	100%	3,279	100%	3,293	100%